

Thomas E. McNamara
Program Manager

On March 15, 2006, President George W. Bush designated Ambassador Thomas E. McNamara as the Program Manager as established by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. Ambassador McNamara brings to the position an extensive background in national security matters, political-military affairs, counter-terrorism, and counter-narcotics.

Ambassador McNamara is a career diplomat who retired from government service in 1998, after which he was the President and CEO of the Americas Society and the Council of the Americas in New York. Following the attacks of September 11th, 2001, Ambassador McNamara was asked to return to the State Department and served as the Senior Advisor for Counter Terrorism and Homeland Security to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary until 2004.

He has extensive experience in political-military affairs, counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, Latin American, Middle Eastern, African, European, and Russian affairs. His postings overseas include Colombia, Russia, Congo, and France. In the 1980s he was a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, National Security Council (NSC) Director, and Ambassador to Colombia. On his return from Colombia in 1991, he served President George H.W. Bush as Special Assistant for National Security Affairs before returning to the State Department as Ambassador-at-Large for Counter Terrorism, and Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs. In 1998 he was appointed the Special Negotiator for Panama. Most recently, he has been an Adjunct Professor in the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Ambassador McNamara has B.A. and M.A. degrees in history and political science and an honorary LL.D. He is a member of the American Academy of Diplomacy, Council on Foreign Relations, Latin American Studies Programs of American Universities (LASPAU), and has served on several boards of non-profit organizations. He has written and spoken extensively on national and international security issues in books, academic publications, newspapers, and on radio and TV.